Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. MBFR: GERMAN SKEPTICISM DEEPENS

EMBASSY BONN REPORTS THAT THE SKEPTICAL GERMAN ATTITUDE TOWARD MBFR CONSTRAINTS AND PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURES HAS DEEPENED. GERMAN MBFR SECTION CHIEF RUTH'S POSITION IS THAT WHATEVER THE WEST DEMANDS FROM THE EAST ON STABILIZING MEASURES WILL ATTRACT "EQUALLY UNPLEASANT COUNTER DEMANDS" FROM MOSCOW. HE FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES COULD BE APPLIED SIMPLY TO US AND SOVIET FORCES SINCE THE TYPE OF EXERCISES ADDRESSED BY THESE MEASURES WOULD INVOLVE ALL OR SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE. (SECRET) BONN 14550, 10/9.

2. SOVIETS DOWNGRADING IMPORTANCE OF MFN SECRET

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AN OCTOBER 7 PRAVDA ARTICLE INDICATES THAT THE SOVIETS MAY BE BEGINNING TO DOWNGRADE THE IMPORTANCE OF MOST-FAVORED-NATION (MFN) STATUS FOR THEIR DOMESTIC AUDIENCE. EMBASSY MOSCOW COMMENTS THAT THIS DOWGRADING PRESUMABLY

IS INTENDED IN PART TO REMOVE THE SPOTLIGHT ON MFN AS A CRITERION FOR THE SUCCESS OF BREZHNEV'S POLICIES. CONSEQUENTLY, SKEPTICS OF DETENTE IN THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP WOULD BE LESS ABLE TO ARGUE--IN THE EVENT MFN IS NOT RECEIVED--THAT BREZHNEV'S PROGRAM HAD FAILED TO ACHIEVE CONCRETE GAINS FOR THE USSR. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) MOSCOW 12353, 10/9.

3. ROMANIANS: NO CHANGE IN JEWISH TRANSIT POLICY

THE ROMANIAN CONSUL HAS INFORMED EMBASSY MOSCOW THAT, TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE, HIS GOVERNMENT IS NOT CONSIDERING ANY CHANGES IN THE WAKE OF THE AUSTRIAN TERRORIST INCIDENT. HE NOTED THAT JEWISH EMIGRATION THROUGH ROMANIA HAD PROCEEDED WITHOUT DRAWING UNDUE ATTENTION, AND THE ARAB GOVERNMENTS HAVE NEVER RAISED THE ISSUE IN BUCHAREST. ROMANIA INTENDS TO MAINTAIN ITS LOW PROFILE ON THE MATTER. (CONFIDENTIAL) MOSCOW 12362, 10/9.

4. CHILE DEPLORES US SENATE ACTION

IN A STATEMENT RELEASED OCTOBER 5, JUNTA PRESIDENT PINOCHET HAS "DEPLORED" THE US SENATE AMENDMENT TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT ON AID TO CHILE. PINOCHET SAID THE AMENDMENT RESULTED FROM MISINFORMATION SPREAD ABROAD BY MARXISTS. HE REITERATED HIS INVITATION TO US LEGISLATORS TO COME TO CHILE TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH FOR THEMSELVES. THE JUNTA ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IT WAS SENDING AN EMISSARY TO THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION IN MIAMI OCTOBER 18 TO ANSWER CHARGES MADE AGAINST THE NEW GOVERNMENT BY SENATOR KENNEDY. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) SANTIAGO 4904, 10/9. KISSINGER

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